

TEUTONS UNABLE TO CROSS PLAVE RIVER

At Several Places Where They Had Reached the Western Bank They Have Been Forced to Withdraw

ITALIANS CAPTURE 2,000 PRISONERS, 27 GUNS

Nothing Has Been Reported to Show That the British and French Reinforcements Have Reached the Italian Line—The Artillery Duel on the Flanders Front Has Reached Tremendous Proportions—In Palestine the British Troops Are Giving the Turks No Rest—Petrograd and Moscow Are Still in the Hands of the Bolsheviks.

Along the Plave river the Italians are holding the German and Austro-Hungarian armies in check. Nowhere have the invaders been able to cross the stream and at several places where they previously had gained access to the western bank they have been brilliantly counter-attacked and forced to withdraw to the water's edge.

On the Zenson loop sector in the south the enemy has endeavored to extricate himself from his serious position, but the Italians, pushing down an attack with heavy losses, closed in upon the invaders and made more precarious their situation. The Italian line in the fighting along the western bank of the waterway have captured considerably more than two thousand prisoners and also taken 27 machine guns. In the Flanders zone the enemy has been completely vanquished and forced to give up his positions.

In the hilly region representing the northern front from Lake Garda to the region south of Peltre all the Austro-German attacks, some of them delivered with extreme violence, have been repelled, according to the Rome war office, although Berlin asserts that northeast of Asiago and between the Brenno and the Piave rivers the Italians have been driven from further strong mountain positions.

No advances have come through to the British and French reinforcements have reached the Italian line in any considerable numbers, but the "New York Times" government agency of 15,000 volunteer speakers who present war-time messages of the administration to theatre audiences throughout the country.

"May I not express my very real interest in the vigorous and intelligent work you are doing in connection with the Committee on Public Information," said the president's letter. "It is surely a matter worthy of sincere appreciation and a body of thoughtful citizens, with the hearty co-operation of the managers of moving picture theatres, are engaged in the presentation of a series of these critical days."

"Men are at their worst or at their best in any great struggle. The spoken word may light the fire of passion and unreason or it may inspire to highest action and noble sacrifice. A nation of free men. Upon you Four Minute Men, who are charged with a special duty and enjoy a special privilege, rests the command of your audiences. Will rest in your considerable degree the task of arousing and informing the great body of our people so that when the critical days are complete we shall read page for page with the deeds of arms and navy the story of the unity, the spirit of sacrifice, the unflinching labor, the high courage of the men and women at home who held unbroken the inner lines. My best wishes and continuing interest are with you in your work as part of the reserve officer corps in a nation thick armed because through your efforts it knows better the justice of its cause and the value and what it defends."

GOOD WORK DONE BY THE FOUR-MINUTE MEN

President Wilson Expresses Appreciation of the Patriotic Work.

Washington, Nov. 18.—President Wilson, in a letter made public tonight, expresses his appreciation of the patriotic work being done by the Four Minute Men. The government agency of 15,000 volunteer speakers who present war-time messages of the administration to theatre audiences throughout the country.

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100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF KOSCIUSKO

Polish Patriot and Soldier, Celebrated at Thompsonville.

Thompsonville, Conn., Nov. 18.—Residents here and Polish birth and descent today commemorated the 100th anniversary of the death of Kosciuszko, the Polish patriot and soldier. After high mass in the Polish church, the various organizations of Poles marched to Falcon hall, where addresses were made by a number of clergymen and others of Polish birth.

YOUNGEST SON OF EARL OF ROSEBURY KILLED

Hon. Neil Primrose, M. P., Lost His Life in Palestine.

London, Saturday, Nov. 17.—The Evening Standard reports that Hon. Neil Primrose, M. P., youngest son of the Earl of Rosebury, has been killed in Palestine. He was a lieutenant in the Buffs Yeomanry. In the present government he had been parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs and parliamentary military secretary to the ministry of munitions. He was born in 1892.

Last Day of Y. M. C. A. Campaign

New York, Nov. 17.—With tomorrow the last day of the campaign of the Young Men's Christian Association to raise \$25,000,000 for its war work fund, the members of the war council sent out today a final appeal for the success of the drive.

Embodied Paragraphs

Russia Denounces Treaty.
Amsterdam, Nov. 18.—The foreign minister announces that the Russian provisional government has denounced the commercial treaty of September, 1846, between Holland and Russia.

British in Possession of Jaffa.
London, Nov. 18.—The capture of Jaffa on the Mediterranean coast was taken possession of by the British army in Palestine yesterday. The Turks, who apparently are continuing their withdrawal northward, offered no opposition.

In New French Cabinet.
Paris, Nov. 18.—Charles Sergent has been appointed under-secretary of finance in the new cabinet. M. Sergent was born in 1863. He was assistant governor of the Bank of France, which position he resigned to accept the under-secretaryship. He has undertaken many financial missions abroad since the beginning of the war, his latest being to Greece.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH JAPAN HAVE BEEN BROKEN OFF
For Japanese Shipping in Return for American Steel.

Tokyo, Saturday, Nov. 17.—In a lengthy statement today the Japanese government of communications announces that the negotiations with the United States, by which Japan was seeking to have the American embargo on steel raised to a certain extent in Japan's favor, have been broken off, to Japan's regret, because of the disagreeable circumstances in which the two countries are placed.

America's demand for Japanese shipping in return for the steel which would virtually destroy Japan's European trade, the statement declares, while the equivalent offered was an inadequate one, cannot reach a point of infringing upon the necessities to her national existence.

WASHINGTON OFFICIALS EXPRESS CONFIDENCE
That Negotiations With Japan Will Be Concluded Successfully.

Washington, Nov. 17.—Confidence that negotiations looking to the exchange of American steel for Japanese tonnage will be concluded successfully, was expressed by officials here tonight despite Japan's apparent refusal to sell her ships at the price offered. The question of price, it was said, is the only point that remains to be cleared up.

M'CORMICK SEES NO PROSPECT OF EARLY PEACE

Because of Russia's Collapse and Unreadiness of the United States.

Chicago, Nov. 18.—Russia's collapse and the unreadiness of the United States to make hypotheses regarding peace before 1919 in the opinion of Mr. McCormick, congressman-at-large of Illinois, who has just returned from a visit to most of the combatant fronts of the European battle line.

Mr. McCormick in a statement tonight said:

"The Germans are not winning the war. Neither are we."

"The war presents a stalemate from which we are unable to extricate ourselves, because of the collapse of Russia and the unreadiness of the United States."

"Nowhere in Europe did I find an informal soldier or public man who believed that a military decision could be achieved before 1919, when the United States might be able to exert pressure on the central empires. There is practically no hope that Russia can do what most of the world expects. I am convinced that the central powers have been energetically spent. They are bleeding terribly. But they act with greater energy, unity and skill than their enemies."

DISORDERS OF INCREASED GRAVITY IN ZURICH.

Pacifists Smashed the Blinds and Windows of the Prison.

Paris, Nov. 18.—A despatch to the Haas Agency from Zurich, Switzerland, referring to the pacifist manifestation of Friday, says:

"Disorders of increased gravity broke out again last night. Two thousand persons assembled in the Place Helvetique and then marched, singing 'The Internationale,' to the prison where were confined those persons arrested during the riots of Friday night. The police smashed the windows of the prison and the rioters again erected barricades and replied with volleys of stones, whereupon the police drew their revolvers and fired. Four persons were killed. A machine gun firing blank cartridges, brought the trouble to an end."

A despatch to La Presse says a dozen persons were killed and a large number were wounded and injured by the movement of the population has been prohibited in several quarters of the town.

FOREMOST CHEMISTS ARE TO INVESTIGATE EXPLOSIVES

They Are to Act as Advisors in the Bureau of Mines.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Six of the country's most foremost chemists were called today to serve on the government today to serve as a special board to investigate explosives and the use of gases in warfare. They were named by Secretary Lane to act as advisors in the bureau of mines. The board will go into the subject of increasing the production of material used in the chemical manufacture and will advise the bureau in the operation of the recently enacted law regulating the sale of explosives. The members of the board are:

Dr. William H. Nichols, of the General Chemical Company, New York, chairman; Professor H. P. Talbot, head of the chemical department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Williams Hoeltz of Chicago, a consulting chemist; Professor H. F. Venable, of the University of North Carolina; E. C. Franklin, of Leland Stanford University, and Dr. Charles L. Parsons of the bureau of mines.

Earthquake Recorded at Melbourne.

Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 18.—An earthquake of unusual intensity was recorded here today and also at Sydney. The disturbance was located approximately in the Kermadec Islands, a small British archipelago off the east coast of Australia.

Blaskmailers at Work in Hartford

SENDING THREATENING LETTERS TO WEALTHY PERSONS

ONE DEMANDED \$25,000

Mrs. Ralph W. Cutler, Who Had Received Two Letters, Also Received Telephone Message to Make Haste.

Hartford, Conn., Nov. 18.—A recurrence of blackmailing letters sent to wealthy Hartford persons is in evidence here again. Two such letters have been received within the week by Mrs. Ralph W. Cutler, widow of the late president of the Hartford Trust Company, and by John V. Talcott, president of the Strand Moving Picture Circuit. In the case of Mrs. Cutler \$25,000 was demanded under pain of death and \$2,500 for Mr. Talcott. Mrs. Cutler was told to leave the money in Simsbury and Mr. Talcott was ordered to leave his at the four o'clock train.

Urged to Make Haste.
Mrs. Cutler has also received a message by telephone urging her to make haste or else suffer. The letters sent by the blackmailers are written in a threatening and menacing tone and are of similar missives sent prominent Hartford people last summer at which time State Librarian Godard was one of those who received threats.

Home Guarded by Special Police.
The home of Mrs. Cutler is now guarded by special police night and day and she is in a state of nervous collapse as a result of the threats which have been made against the recent death of her husband.

UNITY PLAN AND CONTROL BETWEEN ALL THE ALLIES

President Wilson Regards as Essential to Achieve a Permanent Peace.

London, Nov. 18.—Colonel E. M. House, head of the American mission, has made a statement to the press. President Wilson stating emphatically that the United States government considers that unity of action and control among the allies is essential to achieve a just and permanent peace.

President Wilson emphasizes the fact that this unity must be accomplished if the great resources of the United States are to be used to the best advantage and he requests that Colonel House confer with the heads of the allied governments with a view to achieving the closest possible co-operation.

President Wilson has asked Colonel House to attend the first meeting of the supreme war council with General Tasker H. Bliss, as military advisor. It is hoped that the meeting will take place in Paris before the end of the month.

SISTER MARY BASIL AWARDED \$24,000 DAMAGES

Against Archbishop Shratt and Others at Kingston, Ont.

Kingston, Ont., Nov. 18.—Sister Mary Basil, who sued Archbishop Shratt and others for \$24,000 damages for assault and abduction, was awarded \$24,000 by the jury before Justice Britton in court here last night. Of the supreme war council with General Tasker H. Bliss, as military advisor. It is hoped that the meeting will take place in Paris before the end of the month.

GEN. PERSHING VISITED NEWLY-MADE GRAVES

Of Three Americans Who Were Killed in Recent Trench Raid.

With the American Army in France, Sunday, Nov. 18.—The Associated Press, from Paris, today reports that General Pershing on a trip to the front visited the newly-made graves in which lie the bodies of three Americans who were killed in a trench raid. They are on a green hill overlooking a small village.

General Pershing showed especial interest in the graves of the Americans buried there and in a message to the head of the cemetery, upon the enclosure, upon which had been placed in French, the following inscription:

"Here lie the first soldiers of the great republic of the United States who died on the soil of France for justice and liberty, November 3, 1917."

100 VILLA TROOPS OCCUPYING GARRISON AT OJINAGA

The Remainder of Bandit's Men Are South of the Town.

Presidio, Texas, Nov. 18.—Fewer than one hundred Villa troops occupied the town of Ojinaga today, the remainder of Villa's men being in the field south of the town or at San Juan del Rio, nine miles to the south. On Wednesday night his ordinance officers uncovered quantities of ammunition and rifles which had been hidden in the houses of the little town. These had been left there by the Villa troops who were in Ojinaga last June.

MRS. E. HERBIN SAVED

By Hiding Them While Men From U-Boat Were Searching Steamer.

London, Nov. 18.—The name of the American woman who, as related in a military court proceeding here last week, saved the lives of her husband and two sons, by hiding them while men from a U-boat were searching the steamer.

BRITISH DESPATCHES

By Hiding Them While Men From U-Boat Were Searching Steamer.

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Kerensky Will Not Regain Control

HIS PARTY ACCUSES HIM OF LACK OF RESOLUTION

PETROGRAD IS QUIET

Railway Employees Are Refusing to Transport Troops of Either Faction—Foreigners Are Being Well Treated.

Stockholm, Nov. 18.—Petrograd was quiet up to Wednesday evening, according to advices from what are regarded here as reliable sources. The railway workers were refusing to transport troops for either faction and the food situation in the capital was becoming serious.

Assembling Force of Cossacks.
There is little definite news from the provinces, but an apparently reliable report said that General Kaleid was assembling a considerable force of Cossacks.

The correspondent talked with an American business man, manager of a concern in Petrograd, on Wednesday morning. He reports that no foreigners in the city had been molested and that Lenin said to a delegation of foreign diplomats called on him at the Smolny Institute:

Foreigners Not Molested.
"Instructions have been given to treat foreigners with all consideration. They are guests of the republic."

The American traveller characterized Lenin as a man dealing peace, but said that Leon Trotsky was using violent language and threatening all his opponents with death. He reported the city quiet except for the occasional killing of some military cadet or other youth whom the mad dened revolutionaries mistook for a revolutionary.

Dangerous to Be Well Dressed.

The capital was unsafe for one to appear in the streets conspicuously well dressed. Elaborately dressed women, he reported, had repeatedly had their clothing torn from them by mobs on the thoroughfares, the members of the mob shouting: "Our wives and daughters are in rags." The Lenin adherents, however, he stated, were amply supplied with money, from German sources, he believed.

Kerensky Probably Eliminated.

The correspondent's informant believed that Kerensky would never regain power again even if his party should prevail. He is being stopped by former supporters of lack of resolution and the energy to act months ago. Kerensky's party, he believed, could have been dealt with effectively at their very inception. The urban population as a whole was showing a general apathy toward the current events.

KERENSKY PROPOSES A TRUCE AND A PARLEY

Message From Gatchina Was Dated Tuesday 9:20 p. m.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Nov. 14.—(Via Haparat.) Premier Kerensky telegraphed from Gatchina today proposing a truce and a parley. The message, dated 9:20 p. m. Tuesday, was as follows:

"Following the suggestion of the Committee for Saving the Country and the other democratic organizations, I have stopped operations against the insurrectionary forces and propose to send Commissioner Stankevich to enter into negotiations for taking measures to avoid useless bloodshed."

Simultaneously there came a message from General Krasnov, commander of the Third Cavalry Corps, in charge of the Kerensky forces, proposing that the Bolshevik troops be interned in a neutral zone to be established between the opposing forces.

Since the foregoing long-delayed despatch was filed the advices from Petrograd have reported the flight of Premier Kerensky after he had been abandoned by the greater part of his army.

FATALLY INJURED IN INTER-CLASS FOOTBALL GAME.

Charles Curless, Persian, Jr., of Plantville, Student at Penn. Military College.

Chester, Pa., Nov. 18.—Charles Curless, Jr., of Plantville, Conn., died early today as the result of injuries received yesterday in an inter-class football game. He played throughout the contest and complained of no injury until two hours later, when he was seized with a severe headache. He was taken to the Chester hospital, where an operation disclosed a ruptured blood vessel in the brain.

OBITUARY.

Major H. P. Hitchcock.
Hartford, Conn., Nov. 18.—Major H. P. Hitchcock, one of Hartford's best known citizens, died at his home here tonight. He was one of the organizers of the "Wideawake," an organization prominent in the first campaign of Lincoln, and a trustee of the Goodwill club here which has been instrumental in educating poor boys of whom became a mayor. His father was the maker of the Hitchcock chair, now sought by reliable hunters.

He was a major in the old City Guard, before his death, one of the thirteen surviving veterans. He had served as councilman and alderman. One son, John L. Hitchcock of New York, survives.

Warren S. Young.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Warren S. Young, 73, for thirty-six years a clerk at the White House and known personally by every president, cabinet officer and foreign diplomat in Washington during that time, died today at his home here today. He was the oldest employee in years in the service at the White House. He came to Washington from Warren, Ohio.

Condensed Telegrams

An earthquake, 5,000 miles away was recorded at Washington.

Shortage of railroad cars is materially reducing the output of many coal mines.

The names of fourteen Americans were included in the Canadian casualty list.

Through miscalculations the Bolivar Lighthouse on the Bolivar Peninsula was shelled in target practice.

William Doran, finance commissioner of Dallas, Tex., offered to his son, \$500 for every German he killed.

Missing since Sept. 25, the American steamer Kansas City has been given up for lost by the Navy Department.

Every crossing on the Mexican border is being guarded by American troops and machine gun detachments.

The Kings of Denmark and Sweden will visit King Haakon, the Norwegian king, at Christiania, for a conference.

The German Crown Prince, and the former Imperial Chancellor, Prince von Buelow, had a conference in Berlin.

The Red Cross Council issued an appeal to the women of the country for more knitted articles for the soldiers and sailors.

The St. Paul Railroad has ordered 17 electric engines; 10 from the Westinghouse and seven from the General Electric Co.

Renewed warnings against spies have been posted in all army yards and stations in placards headed "Beware of Spies."

President Wilson attended the funeral of former Secretary of State John W. Foster, father-in-law of Secretary of State Lansing.

Directors of the Solar Refining Co. declared the regular semi-annual dividend of \$5 a share, and an extra dividend of \$25 a share.

President Wilson is considering sending Secretary of Labor Wilson to settle the strike of workers in the Texas oil fields.

President Fang Kwo Chang of China has refused to accept the resignation of Premier Tuan Chi Jui, which was presented Saturday.

After a week of fighting two hundred men have succeeded in putting out the forest fire raging for two weeks in southern New Jersey.

Helen Brion, 35 years old, a teacher in an infant school in Paris, has been arrested, charged with carrying on anti-militarist propaganda.

"Billy" Sunday's son, George, is in the United States army. His father said that he was proud his son was willing to help his country.

The party of American congressmen and citizens visiting the front in France were entertained by the King of Belgium on his birthday.

The former German steamer Goeben, now in the Turkish navy and named the Sultan Selim, was hit in a recent air raid by British aviators.

Two of four men charged with assaulting and robbing Thomas A. West of the American Net & Twine Co. of Cambridge, Mass., were arrested.

Lord Cecil announced in the House of Commons, answering a query, that England is not responsible for any plan to take some of Portugal's colonies.

A force of 5,000 Mexican government troops sent into the state of Morales to operate against the Zapata and Diaz bandits were practically annihilated.

Four hundred Xmas cheer boxes consigned individually to New York University men in active service in France are on piers ready for shipment.

The sending of Japanese troops to Europe is impossible said Minister of Finance Shoda, in his address before the National Economic Association at Osaka.

At an address at the meeting of the Engineering Club of New York, Lieut. Col. Ivor Thor-Gray, told the members that Germany plunged into this war to get America.

A second death from scarlet fever was reported in the American training camp at France. One death from pneumonia and another from a train wreck, were reported.

Operations at the Baldwin Locomotive Works are being rushed, one locomotive being turned out every working hour of the day. The output is to be increased still further.

A "non-partisan food conference of producers and consumers" will be held in New York November 26, it was announced by A. C. Townley, president of the Non-partisan Farmers League.

Postmaster-General Burleson renewed his charge against Victor Berger, editor of the Milwaukee Leader, preliminary to cancelling his second-class mailing privileges for violating the Espionage act.

Reports from the United States that the embargo on Dutch vessels in American ports has been raised and that vessels will be allowed to carry grain from Argentina and Russia, caused much satisfaction.

Joseph Forcola, 50 years old, a native of Italy committed suicide by shooting in a street of Stamford, last night because of worry over his wife and other relatives who are now in the zone of the new Austro-German invasion.

Henry Howard, director of recruiting for the United States shipping board, announced the appointment of John P. Lewis, United States commissioner at Philadelphia, as chief of section two of the free government navigation and marine engineering schools.

NEW FINNISH GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE FORMED

With Oskari Tokoi, the Social Democratic Leader, as Premier.

London, Nov. 18.—Oskari Tokoi, the social democratic leader in Finland and former Finnish premier, is expected to form a new Finnish government on Monday, according to a Haparat dispatch transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at Copenhagen. The diet will proclaim Finland an independent republic on that day, the dispatch adds.

Combination Sugar Sales Forbidden

ROBERT SCOVILLE IS TO MAKE RULING EFFECTIVE AT ONCE

CORNMEAL IS EXCEPTED

Practice of Dealers Requiring Purchase of Other Articles in Order to Obtain Sugar Has Been Declared Illegal.

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 18.—The ruling of the national food administration that the practice of "combination" sales by grocers and requiring customers to make additional purchases in order to obtain a certain food article, may not be continued, except that a dealer may require the customer to buy twice the weight of corn meal, grew out of inquiries of the Connecticut food administration a few days ago as to the legality of "combination sales." At a conference in Washington last week, it was stated today, the food administration of Connecticut and Rhode Island pointed out the increase in "bargain" sales to obtain sugar and other sales of non-essentials had been unnecessarily stimulated.

Robert Scoville, the state food administrator, today stated that the ruling is effective at once, and its enforcement can be brought about by wholesalers.

TO REDUCE CONGESTION AT FREIGHT TERMINALS.

Highway Transport Committee to Use Motor and Freight Vehicles.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Efforts to reduce congestion about railway freight terminals by greater use of motor and horse vehicles for distribution of certain classes of freight, the highway transport committee of the council of national defense today announced.

The committee announced today that it does not contemplate the operation of any truck lines itself, but has begun a study of the situation with a view to making recommendations for the co-operation of shippers and railroads.

Particular attention will be given the problem of freight congested sheds and cars held to be unloaded. The committee will seek ways and means of keeping delivered freight moving out of the sheds more promptly and also of releasing loaded cars with less delay.

Paul D. Chapin, president of the Hudson Motor Car company, is chairman of the committee, and associated with him are Logan W. Page, director of the office of public roads, department of agriculture; Henry G. Shirley, chief engineer of the Maryland state highway department; and George H. Friedman, president of the Heavy Haulage company of New York city.

GERMAN CRUISERS CHASED THROUGH HELGOLAND BIGHT

Pursued by British Warships to Within 30 Miles of the Island.

London, Nov. 18.—German light cruisers which fled through Helgoland Bight yesterday before British warships of similar type were pursued to within thirty miles of Helgoland, where they cannonaded the British fleet of the German battle fleet and mine fields, the admiralty announced today.

One of the German light cruisers was observed to be in flames and the machinery of another seemed to be damaged. One German mine sweeper was sunk.

GOMPERTS HAS BEEN INVITED TO VISIT ENGLAND

By Parliamentary Committee of British Trades Union Congress.

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 18.—There was no session of the American Federation of Labor convention here today. Many of the prominent officers in the organization spoke from pulpits and forums and urged the workers to be invited by the local socialist organization to attend a mass meeting.

President Samuel Gompers, it was announced today, has been formally invited to visit England at the close of the present convention. The invitation was brought by John R. Hirt, an Arthur Hayday, fraternal delegates from the British trades union congress, and came from the parliamentary committee of the trades union congress. Mr. Gompers has not indicated whether he will accept.

FOOD DEBATES